# Town Hall Meeting Summary February 9, 2010 Centennial Hills Community Center

#### Attendance

Mayor Goodman Councilman Ross Betsy Fretwell, City Manager Department Directors

The presentation was held in the multi-purpose room operated by the YMCA. There were approximately 55 people in attendance.

Following the presentation, the moderator asked the audience if there were any questions they would like answered. Those questions/comments included:

- 1. What do firefighters do in their spare time? The comment was related to the productivity of firefighters.
- 2. Why doesn't the City include a provision in the collective bargaining agreement that allows for planning during severe economic conditions?
- 3. A suggestion was made to advertise living in the Las Vegas Valley to senior citizens around the country.
- 4. A suggestion was made that citizens should pay more to maintain services.
- 5. Has the City considered legalizing prostitution and marijuana to allow for additional revenues?
- 6. Is the City going to ensure the City Hall project employees Las Vegas firms and employees?
- 7. What is the City doing about external partnerships, grants, and volunteer opportunities?

The following were questions/suggestions/comments that were provided and will be included in the public record.

# **City Budget**

8. With the budget problems, is it time to merge North Las Vegas and Urban Clark County?

- 9. Cutting labor is not the answer. Salaries and benefits should be cut fairly across the board; no one dept. should take the burden of the cuts.
- 10. Don't cut teachers' salaries, instead cut their benefits, paid vacation packages, sick days.
- 11. To prevent reduction look into consolidating with valley governments. The marshal and police should in one facility.
- 12. 8% cut is too much, it's not fair for those hard working employees that work overtime and not get paid. Find other ways to cut spending.
- 13. Out of the 8% the city spends on public safety, what percent is spent on the deputy marshals unit?
- 14. Where does the redevelopment money come from and why build a new city hall? What percent of public safety budget is for Metro and why are they not being asked to cut as all other city departments?

## **Public Safety**

- 15. Is public safety including jails a priority for the city? What is the city's position on correction and will there be layoffs?
- 16. What do the marshals do and will layoffs effect response time to parks?
- 17. After the layoff of marshal will Metro be able to cover the gap with patrols? Who will patrol park areas and can you explain the function of the marshals and what services will be lost?
- 18. As a concerned citizen I would like to express my support for public safety. Let's protect our city as well as the tourist that come here.

### **Union Negotiations**

- 19. LVCVA has negotiated and accepted pay cuts in salary and benefits. What cuts have the other unions negotiated?
- 20. The city must work with LVCVA to avoid a hostile atmosphere.
- 21. The LVMPD has been helpful in contract negotiations, what has the fire dept. offered w/regards to the current costs?
- 22. The fire dept. has taken a zero cost of living raise 2x this year and they risk their lives for our community. Do not build a new city hall that is not justified at this time.

#### Miscellaneous

- 23. Why not cut the footprint of the city limits, if it's too big?
- 24. Will it be possible to keep our current staff here at the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center? We feel that they are a cohesive team who provide all of the components necessary to run this center efficiently and effectively.
- 25. The current city hall project is a mistake under the current economic conditions and should be put on hold.
- 26. How does it benefit us to hire contractors outside of the Las Vegas area to build the new city hall?
- 27. Will the mayor apologize to the president when he comes to visit?
- 28. Is the city going to do brown out like other major cities are currently doing?
- 29. What are we doing to attract people from other states to occupy the vacant homes we currently have?
- 30. Please keep the Rainbow Company Youth Theater; they are a great asset to our community.
- 31. Is the Attorney General going after banks and other lending organizations to recover monies on the subprime lending crisis?
- 32. Regulate and tax those in the adult sex industry.
- 33. Please do not raise fees for senior citizens. The Active Adult Center here is important for preventative health care and therefore cost effective and crucial.
- 34. Utilize volunteers
- 35. All services (including health care) should be for citizens only. All services for non-citizens should be on a pay as you go basis.
- 36. Do not raise fees for seniors. Raise gaming and mining taxes to a reasonable rate.